



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

JUN 2 2005

ASHKAN NAJAFI, P.A.  
6817 SOUTHPOINTE PARKWAY  
SUITE 2301  
JACKSONVILLE FL 32216

In re application of  
Raymond W. Pace  
Application No. 10/822,262  
Filed: April 12, 2004  
For: DRILL BIT CONE PROTECTOR

: **DECISION ON PETITION**  
: **TO MAKE SPECIAL**  
: **(APPLICANT'S AGE)**  
:  
:

This is a decision on the renewed petition submitted on March 28, 2005 under 37 CFR 1.102 (c) to make the above-identified application special under the accelerated examination procedure set forth in MPEP 708.02, Section IV: Applicant's Age.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

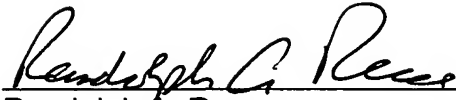
An application may be accorded special status upon the filing of a petition providing evidence showing that the applicant is at least 65 years old. Such a showing may be provided by evidence such as a birth certificate or a statement from the applicant.

The evidence submitted with the petition is a copy of Mr. Pace's birth certificate indicating that he is at least 65 years of age.

The examiner is directed (1) to make an interference search for possible interfering applications, (2) to promptly examine this application out of turn, and (3) if any interfering application is discovered, to examine such application simultaneously and state in the first official letter of such application that it is being taken out of turn because of a possible interference.

Petitioner is advised that this application will continue to be special, throughout its entire prosecution and pendency, including interference or appeal, if any, only if petitioner makes a prompt *bona fide* effort, in response to each Office action, to place the application in condition for allowance, even if it is necessary to conduct an interview with the examiner to accomplish this purpose.

**SUMMARY:** Petition to Make Special **GRANTED**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Randolph A. Reese", written over a horizontal line.

Randolph A. Reese  
Special Programs Examiner  
Technology Center 3600  
(571) 272-6619

RAR/dew: 5/31/05